

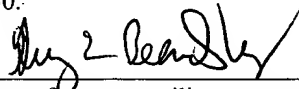


PATENT  
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Guy E. Beardsley  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Frederick M. Ausubel et al. Art Unit: 1632  
Serial No.: 09/809,773 Examiner: Peter Paras Jr.  
Filed: March 16, 2001 Customer No.: 21559  
Title: METHODS FOR SCREENING AND IDENTIFYING PATHOGEN  
VIRULENCE FACTORS

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

REPLY TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION

In reply to the final Office action that was mailed in connection with the above-captioned patent application on December 18, 2003, Applicants submit the following amendment and remarks.